

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Minako HIJIKATA, et al.

GAU:

SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION

EXAMINER:

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: CARRIER FOR GENE DETECTION AND ITS USE FOR DETECTING VALIDITY OF INTERFERON
THERAPY

REQUEST FOR PRIORITY

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

- Full benefit of the filing date of U.S. Application Serial Number 09/813,031, filed March 21, 2001, now allowed, is claimed pursuant to the provisions of **35 U.S.C. §120**.
- Full benefit of the filing date(s) of U.S. Provisional Application(s) is claimed pursuant to the provisions of **35 U.S.C. §119(e)**:
Application No. _____ **Date Filed** _____
- Applicants claim any right to priority from any earlier filed applications to which they may be entitled pursuant to the provisions of **35 U.S.C. §119**, as noted below.

In the matter of the above-identified application for patent, notice is hereby given that the applicants claim as priority:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	MONTH/DAY/YEAR
Japan	2000-080955	March 22, 2000
Japan	2001-062372	March 6, 2001

Certified copies of the corresponding Convention Application(s)

- are submitted herewith
- will be submitted prior to payment of the Final Fee
- were filed in prior application Serial No. 09/813,031 filed March 21, 2001, now allowed.
- were submitted to the International Bureau in PCT Application Number _____
Receipt of the certified copies by the International Bureau in a timely manner under PCT Rule 17.1(a) has been acknowledged as evidenced by the attached PCT/IB/304.
- (A) Application Serial No.(s) were filed in prior application Serial No. _____ filed _____ ; and
- (B) Application Serial No.(s)
 - are submitted herewith
 - will be submitted prior to payment of the Final Fee

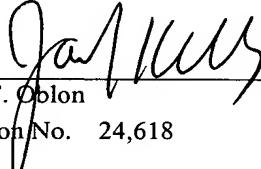
Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

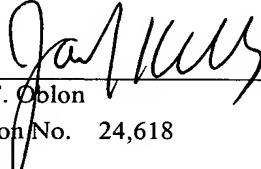


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